

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 1-2, in which the lines, numbers, and letters have been made uniformly thick and well defined, clean durable and black. These sheets, which include Figs. 1-2, replace the original sheets including Figs. 1-2.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets (2)

REMARKS

The Office Action of February 26, 2007, has been carefully reviewed, and in view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the allowance of claims 1-8 in the above noted Office Action.

In addition, Applicant notes the objections to the drawings as set forth in the PTO-948 mailed August 11, 2005. In response to the patent draftsman's review, submitted herewith are formal drawings for Figures 1 and 2. As such, Applicant contends that the objections set forth in the PTO-948 have been obviated.

In addition, the Examiner has newly objected to the drawings for allegedly not illustrating every feature of the invention specified in the claims. In particular, the Examiner alleges that the first opened edge of the openable seal line overlapped with the second opened edge of the openable seal line when the openable seal is resealed in the second resealable configuration must be shown. Applicant respectfully traverses this objection.

The requirement for illustration of every feature of the invention, as further explained in the MPEP, appears to dictate that any structural detail that is essential for a proper understanding of the disclosed invention should be shown in the drawing. MPEP § 608.02(d). In the instant case, the structure of the claimed invention, with reference to Fig. 1, includes an absorbent article 100, an openable seal line designated by reference numeral 140 and first and second opening and closing means designated by reference numerals 150 and 150'. The alleged features to which the Examiner refers are not structural details of the claimed

invention which require illustration for a complete understanding of the invention, but rather, a specifically recited arrangement of the structural components, i.e., overlapping of the first and second opening and closing means 150 and 150', that occurs when the openable seal line is resealed in the recited second resealable configuration. As such, Applicant respectfully contends that the illustration of said configuration of the recited structural components is not required by 37 CFR 1.183(a), and moreover, that the nature of the first opened edge of the openable seal line being overlapped with a second opened edge of the openable seal line would be clearly understood by one skilled in the art upon review of the enclosed Figures 1 and 2. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner's objections to the drawings should be withdrawn.


Lastly, Applicant notes that the Examiner's objections to the drawings for allegedly not illustrating every feature of the invention specified in the claims was first presented in the Official Action mailed February 26, 2007. Accordingly, Applicant's respectfully contend that the official action should not have been made final. Although this point will likely be moot upon withdrawal of said objections and allowance of the application, Applicant nevertheless traverses the finality of the action at this point merely to confirm that the issue is not waived should further prosecution ensue.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application or should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues pertaining to this application; the Examiner is kindly invited to call the undersigned counsel for Applicant regarding the same.

Respectfully submitted,

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